Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03669 250256Z ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 /115 W

-----032839 251138Z/13

R 241849Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5120

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 03669

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD, EEC, EPAP

SUBJECT: THIRD PREPARATORY MEETING ON RUBBER,

FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 3

REF: STATE 44156 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION OFFICER PASSED SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 3 AND 4 OF REFTEL TO LEOPOLD GIUNTI, EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL IN THE DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WHO HAS RECENTLY BEEN MADE RESPONSIBLE FOR RUBBER NEGOTIATIONS AND WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 03669 250256Z

REPRESENT THE COMMISSION AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING IN GENEVA FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 3. GIUNTI WELCOMED THE WILLINGNESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO NEGOTIATE AN INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT (ICA) ON NATURAL RUBBER ON THE BASIS OF THE FOUR GENERAL ELEMENTS RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE. HE FELT THAT PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR RUBBER PRODUCING AND CONSUMING NATIONS IS A

PREREQUISITE FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

- 2. WHILE AGREEING ON THE NEED FOR CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE CONSUMING COUNTRIES, GIUNTI STATED THAT THE EC POSITION ON PROCEDURES TO ASSURE SUCH COORDINATION AND TO CARRY OUT THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES WOULD HAVE TO BE AGREED UPON BY THE OFFICIALS OF THE MEMBER STATES CONCERNED IN GENEVA EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE FELT THE CONSUMING COUNTRIES SHOULD INITIATE A PRELIMINARY TEXT OF A DRAFT ICA WHICH COULD THEN BE WORKED OUT WITH PRODUCERS INTO A WORKING TEXT, ALBEIT WITH BRACKETS, TO SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE.
- 3. GIUNTI SAID THAT THE DESIRABILITY OF CONSUMINGSTATE COORDINATION WITHIN THE OECD FRAMEWORK, WOULD
 PROBABLY BE DECIDED BY THE MEMBER STATES IN GENEVA
 NEXT WEEK. WHILE THE PARTICIPATING MEMBER STATES WOULD
 ALSO COORDINATE THEIR POSITION ON THE SCHEDULE FOR
 NEGOTIATIONS, HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE US WAS THINKING
 IN TERMS OF NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD THE END OF 1978 IN
 VIEW OF EARLIER DISCUSSIONS IN THE PREPARATORY MEETING
 SUGGESTING THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEGOTIATING SESSION
 IN AUGUST, 1978, WHICH WOULD BE HARD FOR THE EC.
- 4. GIUNTI SAID THAT HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 03669 250256Z

COORDINATING VIEWS WITH THE US DELEGATION EARLY ON HIS ARRIVAL IN GENEVA NEXT WEEK. HINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: RUBBER, PLANNING MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 24 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE03669
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780087-1274 Format: TEL

From: BRUSSELS USEEC Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780218/aaaaapdq.tel

Line Count: 96 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 59db38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 78 STĂTE 44156

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3492585 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: THIRD PREPARATORY MEETING ON RUBBER, FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 3

TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, UNCTAD, EEC

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/59db38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014